

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 and 12 have been cancelled. Independent Claims 26 and 27 have been added.

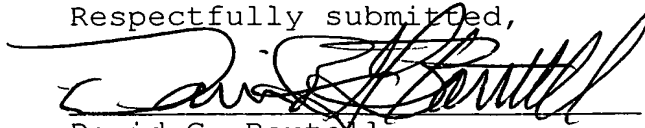
More specifically, the Examiner has indicated that Claim 6 is allowable. Accordingly, Claim 24 has been amended by incorporating therein the subject matter of dependent Claims 2 and 6. Claim 26 is a new claim that includes the subject matter of previously pending Claim 24 and dependent Claims 3 and 6. Claim 27 is a new claim that includes the subject matter of previously pending Claim 24 and dependent Claims 4 and 6. Accordingly, Claims 9-11, 13-15 and 25-27 are now present in this application and consideration thereof is respectfully solicited.

Since Claim 6 (now cancelled and with the subject matter thereof now incorporated into Claims 24, 26 and 27) has been indicated as being allowable, Applicants respectfully submit that Independent Claims 24, 26 and 27 are in allowable form and a formal allowance thereof is now respectfully solicited. Claims 9-11, 13-15 and 25 depend on selected ones of the allowable independent claims.

As to Claim 9, Applicants respectfully request consideration of the amended language. It is Applicants' contention that a "recess" cannot have a zero depth. Nevertheless, Applicants respectfully submit alternate language for Claim 9 to render it in full compliance with the provisions of Title 35 USC 112, second paragraph and the provisions of MPEP Section 2173.05(c). The alternate language is clearly not "open ended".

Further and favorable consideration of this application
is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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